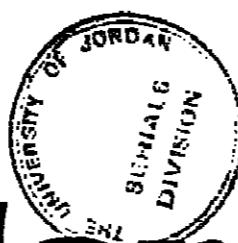


Qaddafi urges unity with Sudan, Egypt

KHARTOUM (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi called Sunday for immediate unity between Sudan, Egypt and his country and said Cairo's speech at the closing session of a constitutional conference which Libya and Sudan signed a pact in March providing for close political, economic and military cooperation as a prelude to a merger by 1994. Sudan's military leader General Omar Hassan Al Bashir, who seized power from an elected government in June 1989, said on Saturday the two sides would unite as soon as possible. Adopting a conciliatory note, Qaddafi said Egypt's 1979 peace pact with Israel should not be a reason for tense relations between Sudan and Egypt. He said Egypt signed the reference to the 1973 war with Israel. Qaddafi described Sudan, Libya and Egypt as the heart of the Arab Nation, saying the rest were only wings.

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Nigeria sends message to Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Nigerian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zakari Ibrahim arrived here Sunday, with a message to His Majesty King Hussein from Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida. The message deals with issue of mutual concern. In an arrival statement Ibrahim said his country's position vis-a-vis the Gulf crisis was in line with the United Nations Security Council resolutions on the crisis. He added that his country was concerned over the developments in the region, because their effects "are not only restricted to the region, but also extend to the whole world." The Nigerian minister will fly to Baghdad Monday to deliver a message to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

4 parties to boycott Egypt polls

CAIRO (Agencies) — Four of Egypt's main opposition parties announced Sunday their boycott of next month's parliamentary elections in protest against unfair voting conditions. This would leave President Hosni Mubarak's National Democratic Party (NDP) virtually unchallenged. The opposition New Wafd, Labour and Liberal parties and the Muslim Brotherhood are protesting conditions which they say encourage rigging elections.

Freed German flies to Amman

AMMAN (R) — A German released by Iraq flew to freedom Sunday and another one was due to arrive in Amman Monday. The middle-aged German man refused to give his name or talk to reporters at Amman airport after arriving on an Iraqi Airways flight from Baghdad.

Iraq appoints new minister

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq has appointed a former ambassador to the United Nations, Mohammad Sa'ed Al Sahat, as minister of state for foreign affairs, Baghdad Radio reported. The portfolio has been vacant since June last year when the then minister of state, Saadoun Hammadi, became deputy prime minister.

Maktoum appointed vice-president

ABU DHABI (R) — Sheikh Maktoum Ben Rashid Al Maktoum, ruler of Dubai, was appointed vice-president and prime minister of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Sunday, formally taking up the posts of his late father. The official WAM news agency said UAE President Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahyan announced the appointment.

Swedish envoy meets Iraqi official

STOCKHOLM (R) — A Swedish emissary sent to Iraq to negotiate the release of about 90 Swedes held there said Sunday he had met an Iraqi Foreign Ministry official and would hold more talks this week. Peter Oswald, head of the Swedish Foreign Ministry political section, told British radio he had met Iraqi Foreign Ministry Under-Secretary Nizar Hammouda Saturday.

Military plane crashes in Gulf

DUBAI (R) — A military plane crashed into the Gulf off the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Sunday, aviation sources said.

Algeria seeks to postpone meeting

TUNIS (R) — Algeria has asked for the postponement of Monday's Arab League Council meeting in Tunis.

Israel says 4 guerrillas killed

HAIFA (TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli-allied militants Sunday killed four 10 members of a Lebanese guerrilla in a fire fight in the north of Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone" in Lebanon, army officials said.

Palestinian kills 3 Israelis in apparent revenge for massacre

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian teenager stabbed three Israelis to death in West Jerusalem Sunday apparently to avenge last week's massacre off Palestinians in East Jerusalem, police said.

Angry Israelis stoned Arab cars and right-wing politicians called for the death penalty for "terrorists" after the dawn attack in a quiet Jewish neighbourhood.

Police named the attacker — caught as he lay pinned to the ground under the body of one of his victims — as Omar Abu Sirhan, 19, a plasterer from Abu Dis village, near Bethlehem.

Shouting "God is great," he killed a woman soldier, a garden nursery owner and a member of an elite police unit, police said.

It happened just before 7 a.m. (0500 GMT) in the south Jerusalem neighbourhood of Baka, and ended with residents seizing the assailant. Police arrested him at the gates of a nursery school.

The attack was claimed in separate phone calls by two groups as retribution for the Oct. 8 bloodbath in East Jerusalem, when police fired into a stone-throwing mob and over 20 Palestinians died.

Vengeful Israelis stoned Arab-owned cars on a Jerusalem highway and shouts of "Death to the Arabs" resounded in the streets of Baka.

Jerusalem's Israeli mayor, Teddy Kollek, appealed for calm, saying the attack was "a tough test of people's patience and tolerance."

Some Israeli politicians demanded broader powers for troops and police to fire on attackers.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's senior adviser, Avi Pazner, put indirect blame on the U.N. Security Council. He said its con-

demnation of Israel for the Oct. 8 massacre created "an atmosphere that incites extremist actions against innocent Jewish civilians."

After the Oct. 8 killings, leaflets distributed by leaders of the 34-month-old Palestinian uprising called for vengeance in these "bloody days of total escalation."

According to police accounts, Sunday's rampage began when the assailant plunged his 40-centimetre blade into the chest of Iris Azulai, an 18-year-old woman soldier, outside her home.

He ran to a nearby street where he slightly injured a 13-year-old boy, Amikam Kovner, then assaulted a 43-year-old gardener, Eli Elitzur, stabbing him fatally in the chest.

Chelouche, wearing civilian clothes, fired two warning shots in the air and two more shots in his legs, but the attacker managed to stab him in the chest.

They struggled in a dusty lot outside a pre-school for three-and-four-year-olds.

Israelis tried to set fire to an Arab car after they gathered at the scene of the attack — a middle-class area near the road to Bethlehem, a busy entry for Arabs working in West Jerusalem.

Witnesses said the crowd beat a neighbour, known to back dialogue with Palestinians, and scuffled with journalists.

The crowd then moved onto a main road and stoned about six Arab cars, which have different number plates from Israeli vehicles. There were no reports of casualties.

In August a Palestinian was beaten to death and several wounded by Jews during a week of anti-Arab rioting after two

telephone calls.

Iraq to free some Britons, reaffirms desire for peace

France plans Gulf peace initiative

PARIS (Petra) — French Television said Sunday France intends to propose a compromise to solve the Gulf crisis based on withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the simultaneous initiation of Arab talks to solve the problem.

The spokesman identified the assailant as a Hebronite who wanted to avenge the Oct. 8 killings.

"It is the beginning of a new phase of armed confrontation inside the territories," the spokesman said in a three-minute telephone call.

Heath, prime minister from 1970 to 1974, arrived in Baghdad Saturday on a mercy mission to seek freedom for sick or elderly Britons stopped with other Westerners and Japanese men from leaving Iraq since the takeover.

British diplomatic sources say 53 Britons, about half of them held at strategic sites to deter attack by U.S.-led forces in the region. French Television added that France intends to write off its \$7 billion debt of Iraq.

Asked if he would hold political talks with Iraqi officials, he said, "No, I have no plan to do that."

The Iraqi government had not made clear who would see Heath other than his meeting with Saddam. He held talks with Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz Saturday.

Heath created a storm in Britain last month when he urged world leaders to negotiate with Iraq to avoid war in the Gulf.

"Mr. Heath will go home with some good news," Iraqi Information Minister Laif Jassem said. He did not elaborate.

Heath arrived in Baghdad Saturday on a private mission to seek the hostages' release, reportedly carrying a list of 53 ailing, elderly and young Britons. The British Broadcasting Corporation said Saddam was sympathetic but outlined reasons for keeping the "guests," as Iraqi officials have referred to foreigners not allowed to leave.

Upon his arrival from Amman, Heath, 74, spoke briefly with reporters, saying his mission was "only humanitarian."

He recognized in intense

dangers and the disastrous effect warfare could have on the whole region and that the crisis could have on the world economy."

Heath said Saddam had shown no sign that he was considering a total or partial withdrawal from Kuwait, but the British spokesman called for more diplomatic action from the West.

"I don't quite frankly believe that enough is being done on the diplomatic front," he said. "One also needs a response from the other parties involved."

Baghdad, fighting a U.N. trade embargo over the invasion, last week denied a Soviet news report that Iraq might quit most of Kuwait if it could keep a disputed oilfield and two islands which command Iraq's access to the Gulf.

"The emphasis on diplomatic action was very considerable and what (Saddam) wants to see is a stable order in the Middle East as a whole," Heath said.

Saddam called on Aug. 12 for a global solution to all the problems of the Middle East including the Gulf crisis and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The United States, Britain and other members of the anti-Iraq alliance at the U.N. reject linkage between the issues.

Heath said Saddam had been sympathetic to the view that detaining foreigners did not help a diplomatic solution but had given no sign that he would stop holding men in military installations and other strategic sites.

"The belief remains that this is a protection against a sudden American attack," Heath said.

About 1,400 Britons are trapped in Iraq and Kuwait, the biggest number of any Western country. About 270 of them are being held at strategic sites.

Saddam has responded to visits by several foreign officials and parliamentarians by releasing small groups of Westerners.

"He (Saddam) emphasised that he wished to do everything possible through diplomatic means to achieve a peaceful solution to the present crisis," Heath said.

The minister, a close Saddam associate, was told that Iraq should negotiate higher oil prices to get it out of its economic fix.

Chamoun, wife and children shot dead



Dany Chamoun

room after the gunmen left. I found Tarek's body on the floor of his bedroom while Julien was still breathing underneath his bed," she said.

Chamoun had six bullets in the head, two in his left shoulder and one in his chest. His half-German wife was riddled with 11 gunshots and Tarek had only one bullet wound in his forehead. Juliein suffered two gunshots, the police spokesman said.

Chamoun's prime minister, Salim Hoss, drove from west Beirut to inspect the scene of the crime before the bodies were removed.

It was his first visit to Baabda since 1985, when Muslim cabinet ministers boycotted former President Amine Gemayel after he clashed with Syria.

"It is a monstrous crime that can be committed only by a spiteful enemy," Hoss told reporters.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan expressed his frustration with the way Jordan was being treated.

"We are scrupulously implementing the U.N. sanctions, yet we are still being penalised by Saudi Arabia and the West. Jordan is being pushed into the Iraqi camp, into an extremist frame of mind," the Crown Prince was quoted as saying in the same report.

"We are drifting towards disaster," the King said, in his first interview with a British newspaper since the Gulf crisis began. "It is irritating in the extreme, and humiliating, to see Jordan so badly treated."

The King said there was little understanding in the international community of Jordan's unique problems as a small, poor country, wedged between the military monoliths of Iraq and Israel. He feels particularly bitter at the lack of support from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, given the historic connection between the two countries. "Our

(Continued on page 4)

King: Jordan is badly treated

AMMAN (J.T.) — Despite its leading role in efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis, Jordan feels its endeavours are not sufficiently appreciated although its aim is to attain peace. His Majesty King Hussein was quoted Sunday as saying,

The King, in a report published in the London Sunday Times, emphasised Jordan's determination to pursue all possible endeavours to find a solution to the Gulf region from an explosion.

"My greatest fear is that if an explosion does occur nobody can foresee the result and the wounds will be with us for generations," the King said.

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(Continued on page 4)

'No negotiation under way to include Islamists in cabinet'

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A senior official denied Sunday the government was negotiating with members of the Islamic bloc in the Lower House of Parliament to include them in the cabinet in a government reshuffle.

"There are no negotiations currently being conducted at all," the official told the Jordan Times, when asked to comment on reports quoting parliamentarians who said Prime Minister Mudar Badran was holding consultations with members of the 22-strong Muslim Brotherhood and another group of its supporters — independent Islamists — in the House for their possible inclusion in a new cabinet that was widely expected before Parliament opened its annual session on Nov. 18.

"However, afterwards Reuter corrected its erroneous report.

"It is regrettable that despite Reuter's correction, some Arab and Western news media carried the agency's erroneous report without taking into consideration the corrections made. Moreover, some of these media based their inference and conclusions on Reuter's incorrect report with the purpose of distorting Jordan's position."

"We believe in a national unity government which represents all groups and blocs in the House," Arabyat told the Jordan Times.

Arabyat said the Brotherhood had not changed its position as stated during the vote of confidence in the Badran government last January when it

called for "a stronger cabinet that represents an effective national team that is capable of confronting challenges."

The Brotherhood was not included in the government since Mr. Badran rejected its demands for five portfolios, including the ministries of education and information, sources said at that time.

The current 25-member cabinet includes 10 deputies, representing the National Bloc, the Democratic Bloc and independent deputies, including Islamists.

Political observers say that any cabinet reshuffle will be influenced by the political leaning of the new speaker of the Lower House who will be elected after parliament reconvenes. Incumbent Speaker Suleiman Arar and Arabyat appear to be the strongest candidates for the position, and in a recent press statement, Arar, who has served in several previous cabinets, indicated he was not interested in a ministerial post. But depending on the outcome of the speakership's race, observers say, the future of any cabinet reshuffle will rest.

Arabyat said the Brotherhood had not any specific preconditions for joining the government but "we are talking about general basic and democratic principles of participation, which include proportionate representation and to be in positions to bring about reform."

"We are not talking about particular portfolios," Arabyat stressed. "This is premature." He said the Muslim Brotherhood had not changed its position as stated during the vote of confidence in the Badran government last January when it

U.S. complicity with Iraq went far beyond miscalculation of its intentions. Leaked tapes of a meeting between the U.S. ambassador in Baghdad, April Glaspie, and Saddam just before the invasion, coupled with evidence of U.S. State Department officials to the Senate, have built up a picture of active U.S. support of the Iraqi President.

In view of Saddam's expressed claims, the U.S. refusal to make any security commitments to Kuwait was not a neutral act. It looked like a green light to Saddam, if not to invade Kuwait, at least to take the Rumaila oilfields.

The evidence suggests that

The country was broke after its war with Iran.

As a result of this meeting, a Washington think tank then proposed that Iraq push for an oil price of \$25 a barrel, and that it should take the initiative in forcing the increase on its fellow OPEC members. Saddam did precisely that, and backed his demand by troop movements on the Kuwaiti border, the weekly said.

According to the Observer:

The U.S. ambassador to Baghdad had already told the Iraqis: "We don't have an opinion on inter-Arab disputes such as your

Jordan, USSR discuss trade, economic cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — An official Soviet economic delegation is due here Monday on a several day visit to Jordan for talks on trade and economic cooperation with the representatives of the public and the private sectors, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The last time such a meeting took place here was in August 1989 when the joint Jordanian Soviet Economic Committee discussed launching joint projects and boosting bilateral trade.

Questions like organising trade fairs to promote the sale of Soviet and Jordanian products were discussed, and agreement was reached for each country to sell \$5 billion worth of products at each fair to be held either in Amman or in Moscow.

The two sides also discussed types of goods that Jordan might sell to the Soviet Union in order to help adjust the balance of payment which has been in favour of the Soviet Union.

In the meantime, the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Trade announced Sunday that it had set up a team to pay a visit to the Soviet Union on Nov. 13 to conduct talks on means of stimulating trade exchanges between Moscow and Amman and to study prospects of marketing

Jordanian goods in Soviet cities. According to the announcement, the delegation's team will comprise representatives of various chambers of commerce and professional and labour unions in the Kingdom.

Following talks between Jordanian and Soviet officials in Moscow in August 1989, the Soviets agreed in principle to reschedule Jordan's repayment of debts to Moscow for the years 1989 and 1990.

According to the head of the delegation to the talks in Moscow, the Soviet Union had agreed to reschedule the debt, but Jordan was still trying to tie it up with selling goods to the USSR, including Jordanian phosphate, with an annual average of 200,000 to 500,000 tonnes.

Soviet exports to Jordan in 1989, mainly iron ore, paper, machinery, timber and chemicals, were worth JD 4.5 million. Jordan, according to officials here, have been trying to sell the Soviet Union consumer goods and electrical appliances, in addition to phosphate.

The Moscow talks on debts came in line with Jordan's moves last year to reschedule repayments of its \$8 billion foreign debts.

Committee sets up fund to help the unemployed

AMMAN (Petra) — A special committee set up by the Cabinet to address the unemployment problem Sunday recommended the establishment of a special fund to tackle the problem.

The fund, called "National Security and Solidarity Fund" will help finance any projects aimed at finding a solution to the problem. The fund, which is going to be a multi-purpose one, will be financed by Jordanian citizens, who will contribute 2 per cent of their income, in addition to gifts and contributions made by organisations and institutions.

At the end of its meetings the committee also called for speeding up work on the Development and Works Fund, to cater for the needs of the underprivileged and low-income people in the rural areas.

The committee called for finding the best means to absorb people who applied at the Civil Service Commission for suitable

posts. It further called for the reconsideration of the recruitment criteria, issued under the Civil Service Commission Regulations.

The criteria should give priority in appointment to the first supporter of a family, irrespective of the applicant being a man or a woman.

The committee also recommended that the labour market be organised and controlled in an effective manner, in a bid to replace foreign labour force with local labour force.

The committee was formed by the prime minister to deal with the unemployment problem in the country. It comprised Labour Minister Dr. Qassem Obaidat, as its chairman and Abdullah Nsour, Abdullah Akaikeh, Munther Al Masri, Mohammad Smadi, Wasef Azar, Mandaoui Al Abbadi, Awni Al Saket and Abdul Halim Khaddam as members.

Bills show Jordanians save energy at home

AMMAN — Feedback in the form of bills for consumed energy available to the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) show that members of the public have been taking heed of calls to ration energy consumption seriously, especially in the domestic fields, according to JEA Director General Mohammad Saeed Arafah.

Speaking on Jordan Television Saturday night, Arafah said that JEA and the government were encouraging this trend in view of the current economic difficulties the Kingdom was passing through and the scarce sources of energy.

Arafah said that while Jordan is producing nearly 15 per cent of its total electricity power from natural gas discovered at Al Rishieh fields near the Iraqi border, the coming two years will see Jordan using the gas to generate almost 30 per cent of its total electricity needs as the generating units are being installed near the gas fields and producing additional amounts of energy.

Supporting this view Kamal Jreisat, director of the Natural Resources Authority (NRA), said that Jordan has 400 billion barrels of proven natural gas at Al Rishieh, enabling it to pursue its current endeavours to generate

electricity. But, according to Jreisat who was speaking on the same television panel, the search continues to ensure further amounts and once it has been established that the country possesses at least 1,000 million barrels of gas, it will then be possible to pipe it to industries and homes.

Following the government's announcement, on Oct. 7, of a series of energy conservation measures, including the two-day weekend, Arafah said that the decision would save the country some 3,500 tonnes of fuel needed to produce electricity.

This, he said, accounts for nearly 1.5 per cent of the total fuel consumption in the Kingdom and six per cent of the total electricity consumption annually.

Both Arafah and Jreisat said that oil shale, which is abundant in Jordan, can be used to produce oil if the oil prices keep rising.

They also said that the shale could be burnt to produce electricity, but the scheme requires huge investments and the construction of experimental plants which only foreign firms can carry out.

Algerian parliamentarian praises Jordan's support of Arab causes

AMMAN (J.T.) — Speaker of the Algerian National Assembly Abdul Aziz Belkhadem paid tribute to Jordan for its support of the Algerian people during the war of liberation, to the Kingdom's national stand during the Israeli aggression on Egypt in 1956 and to the current Jordanian stand with regard to the Gulf crisis.

The current Gulf crisis has exposed many falsehoods and revealed many facts to the Arab and Islamic masses, Belkhadem added.

Speaking at a meeting with Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi, Belkhadem said that Jordan had always proved that "it is quick to

respond to the calls of national duty throughout its history and ever since the start of the Great Arab Revolt by the late Sharif Hussein Ben Ali."

Earlier Belkhadem had met with Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Suleiman Arar to review Arab developments. Belkhadem said that Jordan was taking a very brave stand vis-a-vis the presence of foreign forces in the Arabian peninsula.

Arar called for promoting the work of Arab Parliamentary Union so that it can tackle Arab issues.

'Jordan could lose \$4 b in 1991 because of embargo against Iraq'

UNDP official urges the world to help Jordan with evacuees

AMMAN (J.T.) — A senior official from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Sunday expressed his opinion that the world community has failed to provide Jordan with proper assistance to help the country shoulder the heavy humanitarian responsibilities towards the influx of hundreds of thousands of refugees from Iraq and Kuwait.

Dr. Mohammad Abdullah Nour, UNDP assistant administrator and regional director for the Bureau for Arab States and European Programmes, told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that helping the refugees had cost the Jordanian government around \$50 million, but the government received only \$4 million to compensate it for its huge losses.

During his visit Nour said he

would familiarise himself with the UNDP programme in Jordan and would discuss with Jordanian officials bilateral cooperation in providing help for the refugees.

Among the topics he will discuss with Jordanian officials, Nour said, are the question of the environment, rationing water consumption, desertification, afforestation, the role of women in rural development and following up the implementation of resolutions taken by a general conference on women held in Cairo last June.

In another development, Nour had a meeting with Minister of Planning Khaled Amin Abdullah to discuss economic issues in Jordan and development projects in the country.

The minister briefed Nour on the current situation and the adverse impact of the Gulf crisis on Jordan's economy. He called for immediate support and financial aid in the form of soft loans and grants to help Jordan finance its imports.

Nour voiced UNDP's full understanding of the situation and echoed the need for immediate help to the Kingdom.

He said that UNDP should also increase its development projects in the country over the coming four years. UNDP Resident Representative in Jordan Ali Atiqa and other officials were present at the meeting.

Queen visits Al Bassah, briefed on NHF project

Integrative approach to development launched at village outside Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Sunday paid a visit to Al Bassah village, on the outskirts of Wadi Seer, about 25 kilometres west of Amman, where she was briefed on progress of work at the Quality of Life Improvement Project being carried out by Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF).

The overall objective of the project, launched at Sweimeh in the southern Jordan Valley in August 1989, is to enhance the quality of life of the people in the underdeveloped areas of Jordan through active involvement of community members, the promotion of self-reliance among the people and the encouragement of a positive life style.

This, according to the NHF, can be accomplished through an integrative approach to development that calls for public involvement in the development process.

During the visit, the Queen joined members of a local family in picking this year's crop of black olives. She also met members of the Village Development Council and the Women's Committee, which the NHF helped establish to act as catalysts for the enhancement of the community's role in the development process.

The Queen also discussed with farmers some of the problems affecting the village's production of fruit and vegetables.

Minister of Agriculture Suleiman Arabyat announced that his ministry "will place the agricultural machines and vehicles required to spray the fields with pesticides at the disposal of the farmers and will also provide the required veterinary guidance to upgrade the region's animal wealth."

Arabyat said farmers in the Bassah region were welcome to benefit from the rain-fed highlands development project, which provides technical and material assistance to the farmers in mountainous regions.

He urged farmers to cooperate with the NHF and other organisations that are involved in agricultural development "because agriculture is vital to the economy."

Oweidi Abbadi made a speech in which he thanked the Queen for visiting the area and reiterated "our unequivocal support to the Hashemite Throne and to His Majesty King Hussein's policies."

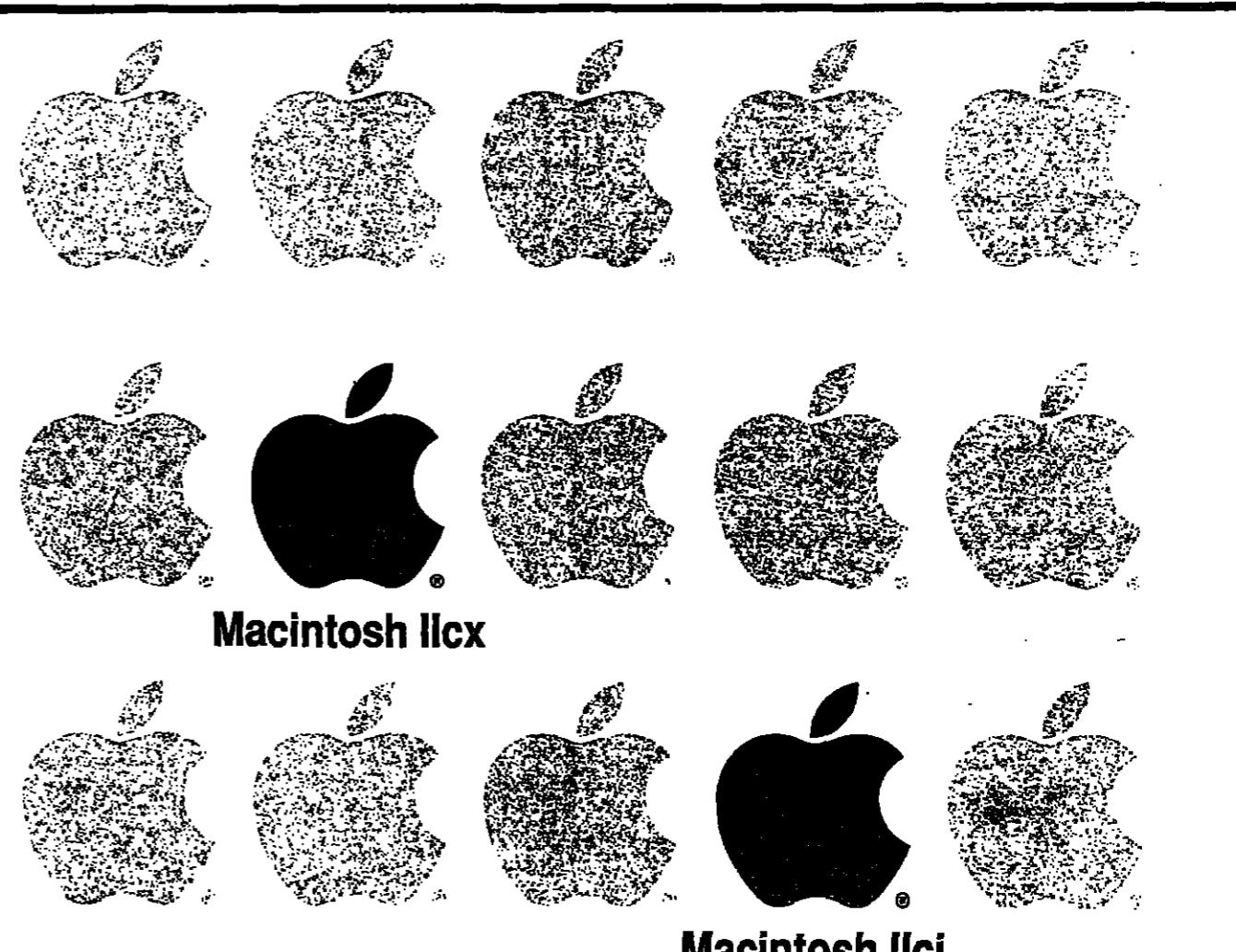
Speaking on behalf of the villagers, Saleh Yousef Al Abbadi said the cluster of villages around Al Bassah "suffers from very poor agricultural and veterinarian conditions, health, education, road maintenance, lighting and running water supplies."

The president of the Village Development Council, Salameh Abdul Latif, said the project would help improve the educational, health and agricultural services in the village. "We are prepared to participate in the implementation and the decision-making," he added.

The village has a secondary school for boys (about 500 students from Al Bassah and the neighbouring villages) and a secondary school for girls. It has no kindergarten or nursery, even though one is needed at harvest time, when the women have to go out to the fields and help their families reaping the crops.

The survey showed that the village has no voluntary organisations, cooperative societies or youth centres and clubs. Social Development Programmes Director of the NHF Issam Zawawi, who accompanied the Queen on her visit, said that the village's problems would be addressed through Al Noor project which seeks to develop such areas through training local communities, setting up village development councils, setting up income-generating projects and developing agriculture in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture.

Zawawi added that the project aims at improving the general environment, providing health education facilities, and setting up village development funds.



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WHAT'S GOING ON EXHIBITIONS

Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zarni displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).

Exhibition of photos from the Goethe-Forest (between Tarif and Shobak) by Sigrid Nester at the Goethe Institute. Exhibition of oil paintings by Salwa Amareen and Haifa Amareen at the Royal Cultural Centre.

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Violence at large

THE cycle of violence continues unabated in the Middle East.

In Palestine, the massacre of scores of unarmed Palestinians on the steps of Haram Al Sharif on Oct. 8 has elicited an Arab's revenge. A 17-year-old Palestinian from a village near Bethlehem yesterday attacked and killed three Israelis with his knife. The Israelis fought back and went after Arabs to avenge the killings, by throwing fire bombs and stones at whatever Arab who happened to be passing by.

In Lebanon, the murder on Sunday of Christian leader Dany Chamoun, his wife and his two children was yet another episode of the ongoing saga which rocked that country over the past 15 years. Coming right on the heels of a solid attempt to restore "legitimacy to the whole country" at the hands of Syrian-backed Lebanese troops, the massacre casts doubts over the eventual targets of "legitimacy seekers" and the means to reach those targets.

The Chamouns will probably not be the last victims on the altar of Lebanese politics, otherwise known as problems. The altar that has been fed by the rolling heads of Lebanese at the hands of warlords and fighting militias.

The ugly and vile murder of a whole family at this juncture, when Lebanon is supposedly reaching a stage of "understanding and tolerance," proves that nothing has really changed. It seems the only thing that changed is the reigns of command which have changed hands. The continuous bloodshed, however, has not stopped, the ugly massacres and desecrations of all that is human has not stopped.

On television a few days ago, after General Aoun's ouster, a Lebanese who had fled the eastern side of Lebanon, pleaded to the world especially the "leader of the free world — the United States" — to show some kind of compassion to the people of Lebanon. He said: "Consider us animals; at least they have rights, they have societies and organisations that protect them and fight for their rights. That is all we are asking, for the world to view us as animals and to lend us a helping hand." The same words could have been uttered by any Palestinian living under the yoke of Israeli occupation.

It is sad when people today who belong to a world of civilised nations have to beg for human dignity and for their God-given rights to live as people, and to be regarded as people.

It is outrageous, and quite irrational when crimes like that occur, and when whole families and identities are wiped out because of their political beliefs or ideological background or nationality or race.

It is indeed tragic and ironic that peaceful countries and peoples should be tangled in an never-ending web of conspiracy, treachery and occupations. Let us hope that at least the Gulf will be spared the kind of tragedies that have befallen our Lebanese brothers, sisters and children. Instead of a new war in the region, what is needed now is dialogue and understanding. Otherwise, the region's suffering will increase and the future will be ever bleaker.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

The United Nations seems to be adopting a policy of appeasement towards Israel, which has been violating international law for 23 years, at a time when it continues to impose an embargo on Iraq which it considers an aggressor for violating international law by occupying Kuwait, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Sunday. The secretary general, who received a negative reply from Israel regarding the mission of inquiry which is supposed to visit the occupied Arab territories to investigate the killing of Arab citizens on Oct. 8, is now making it clear that the trip of the mission members hinges on Israel's acceptance of the U.N. Security Council resolution, the paper noted. It said that Iraq is not being treated by the same measure; and the Security Council is making it its business to see that Iraq is punished for taking over Kuwait. Such a double standard on the part of the United Nations is a clear violation of international law, and a practice which will cost the U.N. organisation its credibility, the paper continued. This "selective method" in dealing with nations of the world, the paper added, has contributed towards the freezing of the Palestine problem for so long, encouraged Israel to consolidate its hold on Arab lands in Palestine, and allowed the Jewish state to commit one massacre after another there.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Sunday urges the Jordanian government to immediately call for a Security Council meeting to investigate American naval harassment against Jordan and its trade. We wonder why the government has not yet lodged a complaint with the United Nations and demanded a Security Council meeting to discuss the situation at a time when the American and NATO warships for cargo vessels bound for Aqaba to divert their course or discharge shipments in Jeddah instead, asks Tareq Masa'weh. Such hostile action committed by the United States or NATO warships is tantamount to a declaration of war on Jordan, something which must draw prompt reaction on the part of the Jordanian government, urges the writer. The Security Council did not authorise the United States to carry out an embargo on any country, not even Iraq, and we wonder why the U.S. forces are allowed to pursue such violation of international law and escape retribution, says Masa'weh. Should the Jordanian government fail to defend the interests of the Jordanian people, the people themselves know how to protect their own interests; and there are thousands of ways for retaliating against the Americans and their interests, warns the writer. Condoning American piracy on the open seas is unacceptable, and hoping for U.N. compensation to come is wishful thinking because the U.N. organisation with all its committees and agencies is under the influence of the United States, says Masa'weh. Jordan is not going to see a single penny coming its way in compensation for its losses, no matter how long it might wait as, the writer says, Washington simply expects Jordan to kneel, to send troops to join the U.S.-led alliance in the Arabian Peninsula and to succumb to American wishes.

Weekly Political Pulse

What is it that Washington and London want?

SHORT of war, there is no other way to deal effectively with the Gulf crisis except through diplomacy and dialogue. If the parties are sincere in their claims that they seek a negotiated settlement of the Kuwaiti situation, one would expect them to promote the peace process by word and deed.

One fast look at the rhetoric recently emanating from London and Washington would suggest that the two capitals do not in fact wish to promote a meaningful peace process in the Gulf. For, if war is truly excluded as a first option to resolve the Kuwaiti situation while the peace process is being nipped in the bud at every turn and on every occasion, one is forced to conclude that both President George Bush and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher do not in fact wish Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait, and that they would

rather keep tension in the area alive and strong enough to justify their long stay on the soils and the waters of the Gulf region. Or worse still, the two countries want war with Iraq no matter what it says or does.

How else can one interpret Margaret Thatcher's statement a few days ago that even if Saddam Hussein withdrew his troops from Kuwait, London and Washington would still have to "deal" with him, meaning no less than eliminating him? What possible inducement is left for Saddam Hussein to untangle the Gulf conflict peacefully if the avowed and well publicised aim of London and Washington is to topple Saddam Hussein pure and simple? Is it not fair to conclude, therefore, that Mrs. Thatcher does not want Saddam Hussein to negotiate his withdrawal? How can one expect the Iraqi regime to entertain even the thought of withdrawal when London and

Washington are sending it one signal after the other that nothing satisfies them except the end of the Iraqi regime and the dismantling of its existence. For Saddam Hussein to accept the demand to withdraw from Kuwait under the circumstances being orchestrated by Washington and London would literally be like asking him to voluntarily put his neck in the noose. No wonder Baghdad has yet to respond openly to overtures of peace, including the sincere ones offered by French President Francois Mitterrand two weeks ago. And no wonder Iraq is forced to deny that it is contemplating a compromise formula for the Kuwaiti situation.

Yet, Washington and London have not stopped there even in the midst of persistent reports that Iraq is seeking a compromise settlement and has reacted rather positively, albeit faintly, to the French President's initiative. And in

an effort to outbid one another in the show of belligerency to the Iraqi regime, every day President Bush and Prime Minister Thatcher dream of yet another hostile idea to increase the pressure on Iraq in a bid to discourage it from even entering the peace process.

When President Bush, for example, says that children in Kuwait are being forcibly denied incubators and that two Kuwaiti youths have been shot in cold blood right in front of the eyes of their parents, and then concludes that such alleged crimes constitute crimes against humanity, it shows that his vindictiveness prevents him from seeing an opportunity for peace in the Gulf even when there is one. How can an enlightened Western leader conclude from such allegations that heinous crimes against humanity are being perpetrated by Iraqi soldiers that warrant the creation of a

Nuremberg-style international tribunal to try Iraqi leaders when much worse crimes have been committed in Palestine and Lebanon.

One is, therefore, gratified to see Paris calling Washington's bluff by asking for the investigation of atrocities allegedly committed against the followers of ousted General Michel Aoun last week. Paris has stopped short of demanding an international tribunal to try the culprits, but the message is there loud and clear for London and Washington to hear and comprehend. But both London and Washington have maintained their silence in the face of Paris's call for equal treatment for all parties caught flouting international and humanitarian laws everywhere in the area.

As if all these negative messages were not enough to milk Saddam Hussein and his government dry of any hope of talking peace with their foes,

London and Washington continued their obstinate campaign against the embryonic peace process in the Gulf by calling on the U.N. Security Council to demand economic and financial reparations from Baghdad. Can the leaders of these two capitals be so blind as not to see that what they are doing would discourage President Saddam Hussein from bargaining with them or even contemplating any peaceful way out of the Gulf conflict? How else can one interpret these increasing pressures, threats and innuendos except as clear evidence that Washington and London do not in fact want Baghdad to withdraw peacefully from all or part of Kuwait and that all they want is to keep the tension high enough to justify their continued military presence in the Gulf, or worse still, a shooting war to satify their own lust for vengeance and power?

Cyprus capital is now world's only divided city

By Alex Efti
The Associated Press

NICOSIA, CYPRUS — With Beirut's green line being dismantled after slicing the Lebanese capital for 15 years, it is the world's only divided city.

There's no sign that condition will change in the near future despite a renewed United Nations effort to reconcile Cyprus' Greek and Turkish communities.

The international climate of detente in recent months has raised hopes among the 500,000-strong Greek-Cypriot majority that Nicosia's green line will soon be dismantled.

"The continuing enforced division of Nicosia is an anachronism after the collapse of the Berlin Wall and the new spirit of cooperation prevailing in the world," President George Vassilis, the Greek-Cypriot leader, said in a recent speech.

The capital of this East Mediterranean island has been split in two since 1964, when hundreds of people were killed in three months of fighting between the Muslim Turks and Christian Greeks.

The original green line snaking through Nicosia's old city got its name because a U.N. officer used a green pen to mark it on a map.

What was expected to be a temporary ceasefire line has lasted for 26 years.

It became an unofficial border extending across the island in 1974 after Turkey invaded

and occupied the northern one-third of the island following a short-lived, Athens-backed coup by supporters of union with Greece.

The occupied sector was declared a Turkish-Cypriot republic in 1983, but only Turkey recognises it.

Nicosia's green line is a maze of narrow alleyways and streets, overgrown with weeds, which form a narrow buffer zone between the Greek and Turkish sectors.

Blue-bereted troops of the 2,100-man U.N. peacekeeping force patrol the no-man's land between the decaying, bullet-hole-pocked buildings that used to be the city's main shopping area.

In some places, Greek and Turkish Cypriots in their sandbagged pillboxes are only a few metres apart.

A dozen people have been killed in isolated incidents along the Green line since 1974, but there have been no serious clashes.

The Greek Cypriots hope U.N. pressure on Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait will eventually force Turkey to implement Security Council resolutions on Cyprus.

These demand the withdrawal of some 35,000 troops and 50,000 mainland settlers from the north and the return of 200,000 Greeks who fled the area in 1974 or were evicted.

But diplomatic sources said pressure on Ankara is unlikely at this time in view of Turkey's growing importance in maintaining the U.N. trade embargos.

"The new idea... is to do

away with artificial divisions, like the one splitting Nicosia."

Two special U.N. envoys are in Cyprus currently on a mission to revive the deadlocked talks, and Nelson Ledsky, the special U.S. coordinator on Cyprus, is expected next week on a similar mission.

The main stumbling block is Denktash's demand for recognition of his community's right to self-determination and his refusal to implement U.N. resolutions.

Vassiliou has rejected the self-determination demand as tantamount to recognition of the breakaway state.

To bolster his demand for international recognition, Denktash forbids movement by Cypriots across the green line. Foreigners are allowed to cross after signing a form recognizing the Turkish Cypriot state.

"The right of self-determination is not something we're requesting from the Greeks," Denktash said he told U.N. mediators last week. "This right has been exercised. It exists and we won't argue about it."

Leaders of the 120,000-strong Turkish Cypriot region angrily reject any comparison of the Cyprus situation with Iraq's takeover of Kuwait.

They say the 1974 invasion was carried out to protect the Turkish Cypriot minority and to exercise Turkey's right as a guarantor state of the Cyprus constitution under treaties which made Cyprus independent in 1960.

Kaifu faces opposition

By Eugene Moosa

Reuter

TOKYO — Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's hold on power is weakening under attacks from the left, right and from other Asian countries over his plan to send Japanese troops abroad.

Powerbrokers in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) are using the crisis to keep Kaifu in check, if not eventually topple him, political analysts said.

The premier wants to send a 2,000-member group, including units of Japan's armed forces, to play a non-combat, support role in the Gulf.

The prospect of Japan's first overseas military deployment since World War II has already attracted criticism from countries such as China and South Korea, which suffered from Japanese expansionism in the past.

"Japan's militarism started a war of aggression which brought great disaster to the people of China and Asia. It is still fresh in people's memories," the Chinese Foreign Ministry said in a statement on Saturday, referring to Kaifu's plan.

Political analysts said there was little chance the bill would pass and Kaifu's power was clearly on the wane.

"Kaifu may be forced to resign to take responsibility for the bill and his inability to fire (Justice Minister Seiaku) Kajiyama. That would mean general elections," said Professor Muneyuki Shindo, politics professor at Rikkyo University.

North Korea seeks new ties with former adversaries

By Mark O'Neill
Reuter

PYONGYANG — Seoul's increasing diplomatic victories have forced Pyongyang to take a more accommodating attitude to the South and look to Japan for economic aid and investment to replace that formerly given by the Soviet bloc, diplomats said.

They said German unification was a nightmare for North Korea, which saw it not as a union of two parts but a conquest of one by the other, making it more urgent to find agreement with the South on a confederation of two systems and two governments.

South Korean Prime Minister Kang Young-Hoon returned to Seoul last week after the second round of talks with his northern counterpart, Kim Hyong-Muk, the first time since the Korean War that such talks have been held in North Korea.

The two reached agreement in principle on a declaration to re-nounce war against the other, and northern President Kim Il-Sung said he was prepared to hold a summit with southern President Roh Tae-Woo if the declaration were signed. It would be the first ever summit between the two Koreas.

"This is progress," said one European diplomat. "While the two sides remain divided on many issues, they seem prepared to set them aside in order to reach agreement. North Korea has lost many friends in the last 20 months. It needs an agreement."

One sign of the north's flexibility, said northern spokesman

Ahn Byong-Su, was that it omitted from its proposed declaration a standard demand that United States troops leave South Korea, knowing that including this would make it unacceptable to Seoul.

Since Hungary recognised South Korea early last year, the diplomatic arena has seen successive victories for Seoul.

Nearly all the other countries of East Europe have followed Hungary. For Pyongyang, the most bitter pill was Moscow's decision last month to set up diplomatic relations with Seoul.

North Korea denounced the move as a betrayal and said Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev had sold his revolutionary principles for a loan.

"This decision turned history on its head," said one Soviet resident. "We created the socialist state of North Korea and made Kim Il-Sung its head. Now the father of socialism is giving it up while his son, in North Korea, continues it."

He said Soviet residents had been baited by Korean shop assistants who accused them of receiving \$8 per person — picking up on Pyongyang's propaganda, which calculated the value of the loan at this amount, with \$20 for Gorbachev himself.

The Soviet Union and East European countries have told North Korea that beginning next year, exchanges will be on a commercial basis, with trading in hard currency based on world market prices. There will be no more friendship deals.

It was this which induced the north to respond to Japanese

overtures after 45 years of hostility, and begin the process of normalising relations, a second diplomat said.

Security sources said Lebanese soldiers searching for the killers searched about 40 houses near Chamoun's apartment.

Geagea has long been held responsible by former President Suleiman Franjeh for a similar raid on the Franjeh's summer villa in Ehden, North Lebanon, in 1978.

Franjeh's elder son, Tony, his wife and three-year-old daughter were killed in that attack along with 31 bodyguards.

Chamoun, inherited the leadership of the rightist National Liberal Party (NLP) upon the 1987 death of his father, who ruled Lebanon from 1952 to 1958.

The younger Chamoun sought the presidency in 1988, when Gemayel's term expired.

The north proposes a confederation, with the two governments and separate political systems remaining intact.

In the Name of God, the Most Merciful, Most Compassionate:

“O, ye secured soul, return thee to your God both content and satisfied and therefore, enter into «the community of» my worshippers and into my paradise.”

GOD IS TRUTHFUL

OBITUARY OF A GOOD YOUNG MAN

Nazik Al-Hariri Special Education Charity Centre in Amman/Jordan solemnly extends its deepest condolences to His Excellency Sheikh Rafiq Baha-Uddin Al-Hariri in particular and to all Al-Hariri family in general on the poignant untimely death of his beloved son:

The Late Hussam Rafiq Baha-Uddin Al-Hariri

who passed away as a result of an unfortunate car accident in Boston - U. S. A. last Friday, October 19, 1990, at the age of Nineteen.

We pray to Allah, the Almighty, that He usher Hussam into his mercy and heaven, and inspire his folks with patience and endurance.

All belong to God and all to Him shall return.

**Amman: Tel: 817766/847171
Riyadh: 4773115
Riyadh: P. O. Box: 1449
Riyadh: Fax: 4770079
Riyadh-Post. Code: 11431**

Piquet wins Japanese Grand Prix

Senna clinches world title after crash with Prost at 1st corner

SUZUKA, Japan (AP) — Victory for race driver Ayrton Senna came suddenly Sunday. Even before he turned the first corner he was the 1990 Formula One world champion.

Winning Sunday's Japanese Grand Prix, the 15th of the 16-race F-1 Grand Prix season, was Brazil's Nelson Piquet, driving a Benetton-Ford.

Senna's archrival, Alain Prost, crashed his red Ferrari into Senna's red and white McLaren-Honda, sending parts of the car flying into the air only seconds after the start of the race.

Because neither driver could finish, Senna, of Brazil, walked away with the title. His points lead now is big enough that even if Prost wins the season's final race in Adelaide, Australia, on Nov. 4, the French driver can't overtake Senna.

Last year, it was the other way around.

Prost won his third championship in Suzuka when Senna was disqualified after a crash between the two in the final laps at a twisty, narrow chicane curve.

Three-time world champion Piquet covered 53 laps around the 5.85-kilometer course in 1 hour, 34 minutes, 36.824 seconds.

Teammate Roberto Moreno of Brazil was second, followed by Japan's Aguri Suzuki, driving a Larrousse-Ford.

The crash between Senna and Prost again worsened their once-improved relationship, and Senna's McLaren-Honda team

celebrated the victory quietly with champagne inside their impromptu headquarters.

"I have lost championships, but not this way," Prost said furiously. He blamed Senna for the accident.

A team spokesman said Ferrari would not lodge a formal protest against McLaren-Honda.

Senna said winning the title because of the accident "was one of those things."

"That's motor racing, and a championship is the result of a whole season's work."

He said the crash could have been avoided if the pole position had been changed from the right to the left side of the track as he had requested before the race.

Senna argued that the right side was dirtier and more difficult for a right turn soon after the start.

Senna and Prost had been locked in a close battle for the title. They led off the 25-car pack Sunday with Senna on the pole.

Prost, starting from the left, moved quickly in front, forcing Senna to try to regain the lead by passing from the inside.

"I went for the inside, there was a space, then he (Prost) closed the door for the corner," Senna said after retiring from the race.

"But I could not avoid it (the accident). There was only room for one," car, he said.

"I found myself in the worst place on the grid this time," he said.

Senna came to Suzuka with 78

points in the individual driver's standings, nine ahead of Prost's 69.

Prost had to finish ahead of Senna in both Suzuka and the final race, and finish in second place or better in at least one of the two races to defend his title. He lost his chance to come out ahead in Suzuka.

McLaren-Honda also won this season's championship in the constructors' standings, with 118 points to 100 for Ferrari.

Senna's McLaren-Honda team mate Gerhard Berger, from Austria, spun out after one lap, followed by Prost's Ferrari partner Nigel Mansell of Britain in the 26th.

Sunday's victory was Piquet's 21st overall, but his first in three years.

"I'm very happy because I had to wait more than three years to win the race," he said.

Runner-up Moreno, a last-runner replacement for Alessandro Nannini, winner of last year's Suzuka race, said: "I would like to dedicate this second place to Nannini," who seriously hurt his arms in a helicopter crash last week.

In a bruising war of words, Prost accused Senna of deliberately driving him off the circuit, suggested the Brazilian was not human and described his actions as disgusting and dishonest.

Senna, in reply, blamed Prost for "closing the door" on him and said he did not "give a damn" about the Frenchman's criticisms.

Significantly, a year ago on the

same track the same two men had collided with six laps left. Prost was forced to retire, Senna restarted only to be disqualified for missing a chicane and the title eventually ended with the Frenchman.

The race was overshadowed by the events surrounding Senna and Prost whose well-publicised reconciliation at Monza last month following an 18-month war of silence was brutally ended after a few seconds of the most explosive race of 1990.

Prost said: "I don't need to tell you what happened. If I tell you, it means nobody understands motor racing. He bid it on purpose because he saw that if I made a good start that my car was better so he had no chance to win the race.

"So he pushed me out. This makes him champion. That is very good for him... but it is more than unsporting. It is disgusting."

"I have no problems with losing the championship. I have lost many. But not this way. It is so bad from the sporting point of view. I hate it and I hate this kind of situation."

"He has completely destroyed everything again. I hope that everyone can see he has not been honest. I never expected what he did — I thought he was one of the human race and fair on the track. But he was not. He just did not brake and he did it on purpose."

Senna said: "I cannot be responsible for his actions. He closed the door, not me. As usual, he has his points of view.

advantage on the front line.

The Netherlands, powered by aggressive net play and tough blocking, finished second in Group B with a 15-3, 15-9, 15-8 whipping of Canada.

In a late night match, six-time world champion Soviet Union wrapped up first in Group C by crushing Venezuela in straight sets, 15-4, 15-2, 15-7 at Taruma stadium in the southern city of Curitiba.

The Soviets, controlling the pace with quick-touch setting and aggressive blocking, jumped out to a comfortable lead in the first game shrugged off a shaky start and settled down to allow just eight points in the second and third frames.

The Soviets swarmed all over the smaller Venezuelan team in the final two sets, blocking and slamming well to close out the match in just 51 minutes.

In other action, France breezed past Japan 15-7, 15-11, 15-4, Bulgaria romped past weak Cameroon 15-3, 15-5 and 15-8 in just 55 minutes, and Czechoslovakia outlasted South Korea in five sets, 15-11, 4-15, 15-11, 14-16, 15-11.

Earlier, Cuba, led by world star Joel Despaigne, took first place in Group D with a convincing 15-13, 15-9, 15-8 win over Italy in 98 minutes at Nilson Nelson Gymnasium in Brasilia, the capital.

The Cuban squad controlled

from the start with aggressive net play and fast-paced setting, and took advantage of Italy's poor

serving to offset Italy's height

against Villegas in a non-title fight last month which earned the Argentine a shot at the crown.

"He was more dangerous with the head than with his punches," Villegas said after the fight. "He butted me in the first match last month. I was fit and ready to win the title. I hope to get another world chance and that we can trade punches the next time."

In a later match on the same

boxing card, WBO heavyweight champion Francesco Damiani knocked out Everett Martin of the United States in the second round of a non-title bout.

The unbeaten Italian sent Martin to the canvas for the full

count with a combination of rights and lefts to the body. The loss was the 12th in Martin's career.

The match was a tuneup to

prepare Damiani for the defence of his WBO title against challenger Ray Mercer of the United States in bout scheduled for Jan. 11 in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

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Turkey plans to make 1991 'a year of thrift'

ANKARA (R) — Turkey, a deficit goal of 10.5 trillion (\$3.8 billion).

Treasury officials said the budget deficit was likely to approach 15 trillion lira (\$5.5 billion) by the end of this year. "Had the Gulf crisis not broken out, we would have set our targets at 100 trillion lira (\$36.4 billion) for the budget and at 40 per cent for inflation," Celebi said of the 1991 targets.

Economists say Turkey has to tighten belts to achieve an overdue success in fighting high inflation and to overcome the impact of the Gulf crisis on the economy.

Turkey's losses from the crisis are likely to reach \$1.5 billion by the end of this year. Officials give varying loss figures depending on different assumptions for 1991, ranging from \$4 to \$9 billion.

Exports, squeezed by a policy of low lira depreciation and reduced import taxes in 1989 and 1990, were forecast at \$14.8 billion next year against an import level of \$23.2 billion.

Officials say exports and imports are likely to be around \$12.3 billion and \$20.5 billion this year respectively after total exports of \$11.6 billion and imports of \$15.8 billion in 1989.

The current account, expected to yield a deficit of \$1.9 billion after two-year consecutive surpluses, was predicted at \$2.4 billion in the red next year.

A draft consolidated budget for 1991 with total expenditures of 103.9 trillion lira (\$38 billion), up 61 per cent from 1990, targets a deficit of 20.6 trillion lira (\$7.5 billion). This is double the 1990

South Korea, China set up trade offices

SEOUL (AP) — South Korea and China, once bitter battlefield foes, took a first step down a long road to normal relations Saturday by agreeing to set up trade offices in each other's capitals.

The announcement was widely anticipated. While China and South Korea have no formal ties, they have had active, if mostly indirect, trade relations and growing transport and communications links.

Even though expected, the announcement was another diplomatic defeat for rival North Korea, which last month saw its other principal supporters, the Soviet Union, recognise South Korea.

The agreement, under negotiation for a year and a half, was signed in Beijing by Lee Sun-Ki of the state-run Korea Trade Promotion Corp (Kotra) and Zhang Hongye, president of the newly established China International Trade Association.

South Korean officials in Seoul said the office would also perform some consular functions, but Chinese officials in Beijing would not confirm this.

No date was given for the opening of the offices, the first

permanent missions of either nation to the other. But Yonhap, South Korea's domestic news agency, said the offices would be opened in November.

The government hopes that the brisk activity of the trade offices will help expand exchanges and cooperation between the two countries, the South Korean foreign ministry said.

"It also expects the office will contribute to normalising relationships between China and South Korea through improved bilateral understanding among citizens of the two countries," the statement said.

The International Private Economic Council of Korea (IPECK), which monitors trade between South Korean and communist (or formerly communist) countries, estimates Seoul's Beijing two-way trade this year will exceed \$3.2 billion and will increase about nine per cent to \$3.5 billion in 1991.

Trade between China and South Korea in 1989 was about \$3 billion, while trade between China and North Korea totalled \$562 million, according to Chinese and South Korean government figures.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Sunday, October 21, 1990		Central Bank official rates		
Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	651.0	655.0	516.9	520.0
Pound Sterling	1274.8	1282.4	326.9	329.9
Deutschmark	433.5	436.1	116.6	117.3
Swiss franc	513.1	516.2	57.9	58.2
French franc	129.4	130.2	210.5	211.8
Japanese yen (for 100)	516.9	520.0		
Danish guilder	326.9	329.9		
Swedish krona	116.6	117.3		
Italian lira (for 100)	57.9	58.2		
Belgian franc (for 10)	210.5	211.8		

Coutts seeks wealthy clients

LONDON (R) — Britain's Coutts and Co., bankers to Queen Elizabeth and other top people, is launching a drive to sign up overseas clients with net assets of at least \$500,000.

The 300-year-old bank, a subsidiary of National Westminster Bank PLC (Natwest), is setting up new holding companies in London and Zurich to seek out what is known in the private banking industry as "high net worth" individuals.

"We see private banking as a developing and more important market," said Henry Hopper, Coutts' director of business development. "We think we are well-placed to meet the needs of that market."

Natwest currently operates its private banking, asset management and international trust services out of London, Zurich and Nassau, Bahamas.

The emphasis is on personalised service — some private banks assign one officer to handle the affairs of a single client, provided his or her assets justify such attention.

"The development is going to be based on our existing activities in London, Geneva, and Zurich," said Hopper. "There is scope for expanding our activities in Singapore, Hong Kong, other parts of Europe and the U.S."

Private banking is a way of helping to offset the hit that British banks are currently taking on their normal retail activities, notably in the consumer lending market.

High interest rates and the depressed national property market have forced banks to almost double their provisions against bad or doubtful debts during the course of the year.

"It is not huge business in terms of overall group profits," said analyst Alison Deuchars at broker Smith New Court. "But it can be very lucrative and it is something all the banks are trying to do."

Hopper said he saw the Swiss banks as prime competitors due to their long-established experience in the field of handling affairs of wealthy clients.

But Coutts will be drawing on the expertise of Natwest's Zurich subsidiary Handelsbank Natwest, as part of the reorganisation.

"We will be riding into the market on the back of Coutts' reputation and existing business, as well as that of Handelsbank," Hopper said.

He said he expected the new operation to be up and running by next April.

Oslo pegs kroner to ECU

OSLO (AP) — Norway pegged the value of the kroner to the European Currency Unit (ECU) Monday, the Bank of Norway has announced. "This is a one-sided Norwegian action," said Anders Svor, of the bank's market division. He said it does not change the value of the kroner and was done without Norway joining the European Monetary System.

A news release said the government wanted to technically base the value of the kroner on the currencies of countries that had the long term goal of stabilising exchange rates.

Svor said the range of the kroner's value against the ECU was limited to 8.1739 to 7.8141, with a central rate of 7.9940.

The central bank news release said it fully supported the government decision. It said the decision would contribute to "greater predictability of nominal values and thereby a better basis for the proper allocation of resources."

The Norwegian kroner was worth \$5.8570 Friday morning.

In Brussels, the European Commission said in a statement it "warmly welcomes the decision of the Norwegian authorities to base their exchange rate policy on the ECU." "This position will help to extend beyond the borders of the Community the zone of monetary stability which has been created by the European Monetary System," the statement said.

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Treasury sees limited global damage from oil price hike

Britain aims to give lead in Third World debt relief

LONDON (R) — Britain aims to take a lead in debt relief for the world's poorest nations with a new scheme to allow some to write off two-thirds of their debt.

Chancellor of the Exchequer John Major unveiled his plan at a meeting of Commonwealth finance ministers in Trinidad in September, but more details are given in the latest issue of the treasury bulletin published Monday.

Maples said the scheme could be extended beyond the 19 countries currently helped under the Paris Club's so-called Toronto terms shaped by former chancellor Nigel Lawson.

For those 19 countries Major's alternative "Trinidad terms" could eliminate as much as \$18 billion of state debt. Britain's share of that would be about \$900 million.

Maples said Britain had already written off more than \$1 billion in Third World debt under other schemes, and hoped the Paris Club would accept Major's proposals.

Under existing schemes the 19 countries can write off a third of their debt and pay off the remainder at commercial rates over 14 years, reschedule the full value at a commercial rate over 25 years, or reduce the interest rate by 3.5 per cent or half the original rate, whichever is lower, over 14 years.

Maples said some of the terms were worse than what less poor debtor countries had negotiated with commercial bankers.

Under Major's scheme debtors could write off two-thirds of their debt, then pay off the remainder over 25 years.

It would also take the Toronto plan further by making the entire debt eligible for debt relief schemes, rather than countries having to do it in blocks of debt.

The big danger was overreaction of the kind which occurred after the previous oil shocks.

The treasury said lessons learned from easing monetary supply and other measures in an unsuccessful attempt to accommodate the 1973-74 oil price shock helped in dealing with the 1979-80 oil crisis.

Trying to accommodate the effects of an oil price rise by softening current tight monetary and growth policies would in the long run only produce worse inflationary effects than letting the economy adjust quickly to higher prices.

The treasury said the world economy was in better shape to shrug off a doubling in oil prices since Iraq invaded Kuwait last August.

Global inflation is under far tighter control than during the early 1970s and 80s and the industrialised world at least has curbed its dependence on oil, it said.

"Oil is now less important to the world economy," the treasury said. But it warns that some developing countries may still be hit because their dependence on oil has grown while it has declined among the 24 members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The treasury said the short-term effect of the oil price rise could be modest curbs on growth and a slight rise in world inflation. But these should be cancelled out within three years provided there was no divergence from current policies.

Vietnam takes drastic measures to cut oil consumption by 15%

HANOI (R) — Vietnam has announced drastic steps, including a ban on the import of passenger vehicles, to cut oil consumption by 10 to 20 per cent because of a serious oil shortage, an official newspaper said Saturday.

The Hanoi Moi newspaper said the council of ministers released guidelines Friday, instructing government staff to use cars and motorbikes only when absolutely necessary and to rely otherwise on bicycles or walking.

"The council made known that at this time and for 1991 we face a serious shortage of oil products due to supplies being cut sharply and because of the Gulf crisis," the newspaper said.

It said the council ordered that no passenger vehicles or motorbikes be imported in the last quarter of this year and all of 1991 and encouraged people to use coal instead of oil for cooking or heating.

"Up to now the amount of oil products for retail sale and consumer use is too big, higher than what the country can provide," the newspaper reported the council as saying.

At current world prices Vietnam would have to pay \$100 million for oil products, but had very limited foreign currency, the newspaper said.

newspaper said.

In a joint venture with the Soviet Union, Vietnam was forecast to produce 2.5 million tonnes of crude oil in 1990 at a field off its southern coast. Most of that will be exported to Japan. Vietnam has no oil refinery and must import all oil products.

A state oil company official estimated in August that Vietnam would need to import three million tonnes of oil products in 1990 and more next year. But he said Hanoi did not have money.

Officials said Vietnam was being badly squeezed by the Gulf crisis since its oil exports did not cover the cost of oil product imports.

The newspaper said the council ordered the ministry of national defence and the interior ministry to take steps to ensure that sufficient oil products are saved for defence and security. It also urged drastic measures against any illegal trade in or theft of oil products.

It said private companies could import their own oil products from foreign companies only under state direction. It said Vietnam would allow some foreign companies to set up their local agents to sell oil products.

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AMMAN TRANSPORT AND MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (Loan No. 2334 - JO) TENDER REISSUE

The Municipality of Greater Amman intends to apply part of the proceeds of the above loan to the development of systems of cost accounting study for the technical departments in the Municipality of Greater Amman. Consultant offices may obtain the terms of reference for a non-refundable fee of JD 40 (Forty J.D.) starting on Monday 22/10/1990, from:-

Tenders Department
Municipality of Greater Amman
P.O. Box 132
Amman - Jordan
TLX: 21969 AMCITY JO
FAX: 6/649420

Documents will be granted free of charge for those who had previously purchased the documents from the Municipality.

Closing date for accepting bids is 26/11/1990 at 12:00 noon at the same address above.

TODAY AT CONCORD

STEALING HOME
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NIJOUN
Noor Al Sharif & Bousi in **THE AGE OF HATEM ZAHRAH (ARABIC)**
Performance: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30
Friday & Sunday matin show at 11:00 a.m.

RAINBOW
Izzat Al Alaili & Yahia Al Fakhrani in **THE EXECUTION OF A JUDGE (Arabic)**
Performance: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

PHILADELPHIA
TOM SILK in **RUN AWAY**
Performance: 12:30, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30

CAR FOR SALE
Citroen, 1986 model BX 19 GT - c.c. 1900, five speed, W.A.C., mileage less than 50,000 kms, in good condition. Note: Duty unpaid.
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S. African schools vote to admit blacks

CAPE TOWN (R) — South Africa's state-run white schools have begun to exploit a crack in the wall of education apartheid with some voting to admit black pupils next year.

Political analysts had predicted when the option of racially mixed state schools was offered in August that few would meet the government's tough conditions for change.

The government said white parents could vote to make the schools multi-racial if 72 per cent of them approved the change.

White parents have delivered overwhelming majorities at the first eight schools polled to end segregation and some turned in 90 per cent votes.

"This will be a wonderful opportunity for our children to get to know each other as South Africans," said Allan Powell,

headmaster at the Plumstead High School in Cape Town.

Parents at his whites-only school squeaked in with a 74 per cent overall vote in favour of integration from January.

Lou Chaplin, chairman of the school committee, said the vote was a powerful endorsement of non-racialism: "It's tremendous. We hope many other schools will follow the example we have set."

Some black parents and teachers were less enthusiastic, saying that South Africa needed a single education authority for all children without the voluntary continuation of apartheid that the government has allowed.

"This means nothing to us. We want all the schools to be equal," said Nozibele Lufele, who has two children at a shanty school in the KTC squatter camp near Cape Town.

Black school principal Alcott Siwa said black parents could not afford the cost of transport to distant white schools and he wanted to see black schools upgraded.

"Why are they only letting whites decide whether their schools should be opened. We don't want any apartheid," he said.

An association of staff at 80 schools in the Cape Town region said Education Minister Pier Cisse's demand for a 72 per cent majority of parental support for change was unrealistic. The majority requires that 80 per cent of parents should vote and that 90 per cent of them should approve desegregation.

White teachers have an average of 19 pupils in each class while black teachers have an average of 40 pupils per class and up to 70 in some rural areas.

Government spending per white child is about four times the amount spent on each black pupil.

Malaysian voting ends with high turnout

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Voting ended Sunday in Malaysia's bitterly contested general election, with officials reporting a high turnout.

Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad's ruling coalition is being challenged by an opposition alliance headed by Razaleigh Hamzah, his former finance minister.

Malathir campaigned for continuity and stability to ensure economic progress, while the opposition urged voters to "save Malaysia" from human rights abuses and corruption.

About eight million people were eligible to vote in the two-day poll for 180 parliamentary seats and 351 seats in the legislative assemblies of 11 of Malaysia's 13 states.

Officials said that despite rain in some areas up to 70 per cent of voters turned up to cast ballots in 14,645 polling stations in schools and community halls across the country.

"The turnout this morning was quite encouraging, being the weekend," one official said. Security was tight in some areas.

Analysts say the election, called a year ahead of schedule, poses the biggest test yet for the ruling National Front Coalition.

Mahathir, 64, who took office in 1981, is expected to return to power for a third term but could be denied the two-thirds majority he needs to push key bills through parliament, according to the analysts.

He gave no further details.

Defence Minister Guy Coome told the same programme that 225 people had been killed in tribal fighting.

The rebels, who invaded from neighbouring Uganda, are mainly drawn from the minority Tutsi tribe, which resents the domination of the ruling Hutus in Rwanda.

Belgium said it would keep 600 troops in Rwanda, its former central African colony, until a ceasefire aimed at halting a civil war there took effect.

In his first public remarks since returning Friday from a four-day peace trip to central Africa, Prime Minister Wilfried Martens told parliament Saturday the force's mission to protect Belgian citizens would soon be over.

He also told Belgian Television that he would return to Africa to continue to try to promote an effective ceasefire. The government had been in touch with rebel forces about this.

"Once a ceasefire comes into effect, the presence of our forces on Rwandan soil will no longer be necessary. They will then be withdrawn immediately," Martens told parliament.

Fighting between government forces and the rebels was limited to north-eastern Rwanda.

Zaire, seeking to counter reports that many of its soldiers were killed fighting rebels in Rwanda, said only 10 had died and 13 had been wounded.

It withdrew its forces this week after sending them to help Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana. But Habyarimana, speaking during a stopover in Zaire Friday, said thus had been done to allow fresh troops to take their place.

He also dismissed reports that Zairean troops had raped and robbed Rwandans. "Our Zairean friends have worked well and we are satisfied with their behaviour," he said after meeting Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko.

His remarks appeared to scotch

Bush to veto major civil rights bill

WASHINGTON (R) — President George Bush has said he would veto a major civil rights bill described as a "quota bill" and would return it to Congress with his objections Monday.

The bill, which overturns or modifies a number of Supreme Court decisions that diluted anti-discrimination laws, been approved by the House of Representatives and Senate before being sent to the White House for the president's signature.

But in a letter to Congress released Saturday, Bush said the bill "would lead employers to adopt quotas for hiring and promotion, and it would prevent or discourage some victims of illegal quotas from seeking legal redress."

"The harm this would do to the cause of civil rights is potentially profound. Any measure that causes employment decisions to turn on factors of race, sex, ethnicity, or religion — rather than on qualifications — is fundamentally unfair, and is at odds with our civil rights tradition."

In a separate statement released by the White House Saturday, Bush said: "I believe legislation can be enacted that I can sign before Congress leaves. The bill I am today forwarding to Congress includes those specific changes to which U.S. bases to close."

"I was told by his administrative assistant that it would be his inclination that he would recommend a veto if the bill stays in its present form," Dickinson said.

He said Cheney's chief objections were to the bill's deep Star Wars cut plus restrictions on the anti-missile research, vague language on the B-2 Stealth bomber, a cut of 100,000 troops, a funding cut for the Milstar military communications system and creation of a new commission to decide which U.S. bases to close.

"There is no reason why my officers or anybody else should stand still while people throw things at them."

Six police were among the 12 injured during the rioting.

Metcalf also said some of the protesters had been drinking and urged the government to consider banning future protests against the so-called poll tax, introduced by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on April 1 to replace a system of property levies as a way of financing local services.

In the March protest, more than 500 people were arrested and millions of pounds worth of damage was caused as youths rampaged through London's theatre district.

Opponents say the poll tax, officially known as the Community Charge, is levied indiscriminately and does not take into account ability to pay.

Column

2 Live Crew, acquitted on obscenity charges

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida — 2 Live Crew, the U.S. rap group whose racy album As Nasty As They Wanna Be was banned but went on to sell millions of copies, was acquitted here Saturday of obscenity charges stemming from their night-club act.

Band members reacted joyfully when the verdict as one leapt up from the defence table thrusting his fist in the air, giving the black power salute to jubilant supporters.

The group was arrested in June after a performance which included frequent rhymed references to sexual activity.

"Centrism is to art what lynching is to justice," said Florida defence Attorney Allen Jacobi, representing two of three group members charged, told a six-member jury that deliberated for less than three hours before reaching their verdict. "They were just words," said juror Beverly Resnick, 65.

"In this day and age this is just the vernacular of young people. That's the way they talk." The band was arrested outside a Hollywood, Florida, night-club after a concert in which they performed their syncopated rhymes to an audience that included Broward County police officers armed with tape recorders. The barely audible microcassette recordings introduced as evidence during the five-day trial included impolite references to county Sheriff Nick Navarro, who had vowed to strictly uphold his community's standards of propriety.

Veterans angered by Madonna's latest outfit

NEW YORK (R) — A television appeal to young Americans to vote, with pop star Madonna emerging from a U.S. flag in red bra, panties and combat boots, has ex-service men up in arms.

Outraged officials of the Veterans and the Foreign Wars (VFW) said the 60-second spot in which the controversial singer calls free speech "as good as sex" and is spattered with male dauber, bordered on desecration of the flag.

The Madonna video, produced by a recording industry group, is aimed at enlisting young voters to oppose what it sees as conservative attempts to stifle freedom of expression. The video is the latest battle involving the U.S. flag and national anthem between advocates of free speech and groups who believe national icons should be revered.

Some traditionalists are seeking a constitutional amendment making desecration of the flag a crime and comedian Roseanne Barr recently ran into a barrage of outrage, including criticism from President George Bush, when she sang an offkey rendition of the anthem at a baseball game.

"We have a strong stand against the desecration of the flag. This borders on desecration," Steve Vanbuskirk, a VFW spokesman, said of Madonna's video.

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Sri Lankan troops reportedly kill 20 rebels in strategic village

COLOMBO (AP) — Government troops captured a strategic coastal village in the north and killed 20 Tamil rebels, officials said Sunday.

The capture of Mawaddipuram would open a passage to Kankesanthurai, a vital, rebel-controlled port one mile away.

There was no immediate response from the rebel group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), to the government's claim.

Military officials, who cannot be identified under briefing rules, said three soldiers were killed and

Burmese monks appear to have given in to army

RANGOON (AP) — Rebellious Buddhist monks, their monasteries ringed by troops, appeared Sunday to have given in to an ultimatum by the military government to end their refusal to participate in religious ceremonies with soldiers.

The government empowered army commanders Sunday to try the dissident monks under martial law.

Reports reaching the Burmese capital of Rangoon from Mandalay, the centre of the defiance campaign, said the monks would end their refusal to minister to soldiers in a formal announcement late Sunday.

In an afternoon broadcast, official Rangoon Radio broadcast a decree by the prime minister, Gen. Saw Maung, empowering army commanders to bring monks before military tribunals for activities deemed disruptive to Buddhism.

The decree said some members of illegal monks' organisations had "been engaging in activities that disrupt the purification, perpetuation and propagation of Buddhism."

"Commanders... have been empowered to investigate, expose and take effective action against such people," the radio said.

Armed troops cordoned off Buddhist monasteries in Mandalay Saturday after the military government said it would dissolve monks' groups involved in the boycott.

A state radio announcement repeated throughout the day Saturday, interspersed with martial music, said "illegal" monks'

Japan stops Taiwanese from landing on disputed islands

TAIPEI (R) — Japan's navy Sunday stopped a team of Taiwan athletes from planting an Olympic torch on a deserted chain of islands whose sovereignty is disputed between Taiwan, China and Japan, news reports said.

Taiwan's state television said at least two Japanese navy ships, backed by a helicopter and an air-force jet, prevented that athletes from landing by fishing boat at the Diaoyutai Islands 200 kilometres north of Taiwan.

The Japanese ships broadcast through a loudhailer that the islands were Japanese territory and refused to give passage to the fishing boat.

The vessel had sailed from Taiwan's northern port of Ilan Sunday to erect the torch as a symbol of Taipei's claim to the islands, the television said.

A boat with Taiwanese reporters was also stopped by a Japanese navy ship at around 1 p.m. (04